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"Witch City" Fire Swept Thousands Homeless

Nearly Half of Salem, Mass., Is Devastated by Flames That Cause Damage Estimated at Not Less Than \$20,000,000.

DYNAMITE IS NOT EFFECTUAL

Though Block After Block of Business Houses Is Blown Up, Flames Are Driven in New Direction by Strong Wind.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] SALEM, Mass., June 25.—Nearly half of the "old witch city" of Salem, rich in historic buildings and tradition, was devastated today and tonight by a fire that caused an estimated loss of \$20,000,000, destroyed thousands of buildings, including a score of manufacturing establishments, and made 10,000 of the 45,000 residents homeless. The fire was believed to be under control at a late hour.

Starting at 2 o'clock as the result of an explosion at the Kern Leather company plant, flames spread in every direction, defying all efforts of the firemen. Block after block was dynamited, but the fire, checked in one direction, was driven by shifting winds into new paths of destruction. At the start the water pressure was low, and when the fight became desperate a great watermain near Beverly Bridge broke, leaving the firemen virtually helpless. Meanwhile calls for assistance were rushed to nearby cities and an enormous quantity of apparatus responded only to find that there was no water to check the progress of the flames. From the historic Gallows Hill, where alleged witches were hanged 200 years ago, the fire spread quickly through the shoe and leather manufacturing districts, then south to the Boston and Maine railroad tracks at Jefferson avenue, and eastward to the water front.

Late tonight fire-brands carried into the business section to the north started a second fire at North street. A little later a tank of the Standard Oil company in the northwest part of the city was ablaze, and presently a third fire was leveling buildings in that section.

The burned buildings include the plants of a score of manufacturing companies, among them being the big factory of the Naumkeag cotton mills, twice as many business places; St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church, recently erected at a cost of a quarter of a million; an orphan asylum, and more than 200 residences. Four fires are still burning.

Among those residences and colonial homes which artists have said to be the finest type of that architecture in the country, as well as the entire section occupied by the Italian and Greek colonies were devastated. Most of the two thousand persons who had homes in that district are housed temporarily at the Y. M. C. A. building, the city armory, the police stations and other public buildings. All roads going out of the city were crowded with refugees.

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Administration Anti-Trust Program Starts In Senate

Debate Opens on Newlands Trade Commission Bill and Fight Against Trusts Is Fairly Begun—May Be Long Continued Battle.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] WASHINGTON, June 25.—With the opening of the debate on the Newlands trade commission bill, the fight began to put the administration anti-trust program through the senate. On motion of Senator Newlands, the trade commission measure was made unfinished business in the senate, with an agreement that its consideration will not interfere with the appropriation bills.

Senator Cummins introduced five amendments to the bill proposing to add prohibitions against interlocking directorates and holding companies, with the trade commission responsible for the enforcement of the prohibitions. The amendments were referred to the judiciary committee now considering the Clayton bill to supplement the Sherman law, which contains similar prohibitions. Cummins said, however, he would make an effort to have the two problems dealt with in the trade commission measure.

REBELS HOLD JALISCO

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] NOGALES, June 25.—Constitutionalist rebels formally took possession of the state of Jalisco yesterday with Manuel Aguirre as governor. General Manuel Dieguez as commander of the military forces and Aguirre Berlanga as secretary of state, according to a message from Mazatlan. A circular announcing the event was sent out under authority of Carranza.

Villa Defeats Greater Army Than His Own At Zacatecas

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] ZACATECAS, June 24, Wednesday. (Delayed over military wires)—Villa drove from Zacatecas a force which greatly exceeded his own, according to official figures made late today. Between 13,000 and 14,000 federalists defended the city, while the constitutionalists, though they number about 15,000 could employ little more than half their number in the attacks of four days which resulted yesterday in victory for Villa's troops, the taking of hundreds of prisoners and munitions and the demoralization of retreat of remnants of General Barron's army. Benjamin Argueta and Antonio Rojas, former Orozco rebel leaders, now generals in the federal irregular troops, were killed Saturday in the action on the outskirts of Zacatecas, according to official announcement from Villa's headquarters.

It is asserted by leaders here that the last act of General Barron was to blow up the buildings in which Attorney Majallanes lived. He and his wife

and eight children perished. The youngest child returned to find the demolished house and the bodies of her parents and brothers and sisters. The street fighting in Zacatecas was the most severe of the revolution. The federalists fought from street to street and from housetop to housetop and many a constitutionalist paid with their lives for their bravery. Many federalists threw away their uniforms and began sniping the invaders. Those who pleaded guilty to this offense were shot after being captured.

The federalists, already on the retreat, blew up a mine in the customs house without warning their women and children of their intentions. Many constitutionalists who entered the building were also buried in the wreck of the three-story structure.

By sundown Tuesday the federalists had been completely routed. How many of them escaped has not been learned. Since the city had been completely surrounded the number cannot be great. The attack on the inner defense began on Monday.

NO FUSION IN NEW YORK SAYS COL. ROOSEVELT

Ex-President and Associates Settle Definitely the Question of Progressive Party Forming a Union with Republicans.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] OYSTER BAY, June 25.—Colonel Roosevelt and his leading associates settled the question relating to the progressive party in New York. It was decided there will be no fusion in New York state. A straight progressive ticket will be put in the field.

District Attorney Whitman was repudiated by Roosevelt. The colonel urged by the leaders to be a candidate for governor, declined to deny that he will run.

Progressive leaders said they still had hopes he would decide to be a candidate for governor of New York. Almost all of Roosevelt's first day at home after his trip to Europe was given over to politics.

Not only did he talk with New York state leaders, but he went into the political situation in three other states. William Draper Lewis, progressive candidate for governor of Pennsylvania; Walter Brown, state chairman of Ohio; and John M. Parker, state chairman of Louisiana, called at Sagamore Hill.

FOUR HURT IN A SPECTACULAR AUTO ACCIDENT

Bursting Tire Causes Machine to Turn Turtle and Swap Ends on Central Avenue—No Serious Injuries to Riders.

A new chapter was written on motor miracles and wreck wonders when a light car, driven by L. D. Simon turned turtle and swapped ends on North Central avenue boulevard at 9:30 last evening with nothing but minor injuries to its five occupants. That no one was killed outright is the strangest thing Jay Alkire saw, and Mr. Alkire saw all this accident. He was driving into town, one mile north of the Indian school, when he observed two cars approaching from the south. The first one was coming slowly, and was being followed at a thirty mile gait by the second.

It was this stage set on which the swift action took place. Alkire had slowed his car when he saw Simon was trying to pass the first machine, which was being driven by Mrs. L. O. Carlisle of East Portland.

Simon evidently applied the brakes, too, as he neared the opening. For his car skidded, first narrowly missed the Alkire car, then swerved and struck the front wheel of the Carlisle machine. It then whirled completely about, turned over and pinned its occupants beneath it.

The injured: JAY TOWERS, bruises about the head and splinter in side. C. A. KING, wrenched hip, cuts and bruises about the shoulder and head. WALTER BURCH, slight bruises. L. D. SIMON, bruised and shaken. FRANK CURREN, arm bruised.

Alkire and Carlisle, who is one armed, first tried to lift the wrecked car off its victims. Two of them, King and Simon, were pinned beneath the machine while the engine was still going and the lights burning. Finding it impossible to lift the car, the rescuers flagged two other machines and collected help enough to extricate the injured men. They were sent into town in machines.

None of the passengers were badly injured, though all but Burch were cut and shaken. Burch, it seems, managed to jump and avoided the most severe part of the jolting. When representatives of The Republican, for which King works as an operator, called with a doctor, and Mr. and Mrs. Alkire, the supposedly very badly injured man met the party at the door.

He drew the visitors outside, begging them not to wake his wife, who is just recovering from an operation, and who had not been informed of the exciting events of the evening. He was taken to the office of Dr. Nichols and patched up.

"I am very thankful that no one was badly hurt," said Mrs. Alkire, after learning the condition of the wrecked car's passengers. "I cannot see how anyone escaped death. And the other car. There were several women, and two babies—little ones!"

Carlisle's car was not harmed beyond a broken spoke in one front wheel, but Simon's machine is almost a total wreck.

RESOLUTE AGAIN VICTORIOUS

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] GLEN COVE, June 25.—The Resolute again defeated the Defiance and the Vanite for yacht honors in close race.

SELF DEFENSE IS PLEA OF THE TEXAS DOCTOR

However, Testimony Yesterday Was Largely of Sensational Nature, Detailing Causes Leading Up to Booth Killing.

CLAIMED TRIED TO LURE WIFE AWAY

Defense Also Introduces Testimony to Effect That Booth Recognized Wiggins at Tent and Reached for Gun Under Pillow.

The Wiggins trial assumed an interesting and exciting aspect yesterday shortly after the afternoon session was called. The state had rested in the morning, the defendant's attorney had made his statement and the defendant was on the stand offering the case in chief for the defense. An argument was in progress relative to certain testimony that was wanted in the record by the defense relative to conversations that had taken place between the defendant and certain other persons who had told him of the statements of Tap Booth relative to Mrs. Wiggins. County Attorney Lyman objected strenuously and Ling came back.

During the encounter Attorney Ling made the statement that witnesses had been purposely kept away by the state because their testimony would benefit the defendant, whereupon Lyman sprang up and shouted: "That is false and the counsel knows it is absolutely false."

"It is not," yelled Ling, glaring at Lyman, and immediately the court stopped the controversy.

Many times during the afternoon the two attorneys became involved in altercations relative to the introduction of testimony, and but for the patience of Judge O'Connor some thing might have happened to make more news for the overcrowded court room to detail around among the friends that were not able to get in. However, the sort of defense that the defendant will rely on, was pretty well ascertained by the time the statement was made to the jury and the first portion of the testimony of the defendant was before the jury.

Self defense will be the formal plea as a justification for the killing. Mr. Ling stated in the morning that he would prove that Dr. Wiggins had been threatened many times, some of which threats were communicated to him and some of which were not so communicated. That at the time the defendant went to the tent and awakened Booth, this latter at the third call of "Tap," having been awakened before, thrust his hand under his pillow and reached for his pistol, saying, "Yes, I know," whereupon the defendant fired.

Further the counsel brought in many references to the fact that Booth had been the cause of breaking up the home of the defendant by his conduct with the young wife of the defendant, whom he desired, and whom he tried to lure away for alleged immoral purposes. Counsel stated that he deprecated exceedingly the cause that led him to open up this line of testimony but that his duty to the living was greater than his duty to the dead and that in the course of the evidence he would be forced to bring out some very strong things about the deceased.

The morning session ended after the statement of counsel. But during the statement the jury was excused for the purpose of allowing the attorneys to argue the matter of threats. Judge O'Connor finally allowed all the statements to go into the record and recalled the jury, then dismissing for lunch. The witnesses for the state in the morning largely corroborative for the other testimony. Alkire Howe was on the stand at first for the purpose of identifying the cot, which was left the day before, but this was refused admission. Judge Carr, of Tempe, the examining magistrate and coroner, told of the position of the body with the right arm drawn up and the left one down by the side nearly straight. This was the first inkling of an idea that had crept in that the deceased had tried to use a pistol.

Chas. A. Slover, bartender at the Hoffman, testified to seeing Wiggins on the morning of the homicide and advising him to go and give up, directing him to the sheriff's office.

Defendant on Stand

As soon as court took up for the afternoon Reese Ling asked Luther Edward Wiggins to take the stand. This he did showing about the same coolness that has characterized his actions heretofore. Immediately the testimony was plunged into, with admissions on the part of the defendant of all the facts that are generally known of the homicide, except that portion where Wiggins went into the tent. Here came a digression from the other stories and the witness testified that he called Booth three times, "Tap Tap Tap" at the first call, deceased opened

H. B. CLAFLIN COMPANY IS BANKRUPT—THIRTY MILLION LIABILITIES

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] NEW YORK, June 25.—The biggest mercantile failure in the history of the United States was precipitated when receivers were appointed for the H. B. Claflin company of this city. The company, it is estimated, owes more than \$29,000,000, which at the present time it is unable to pay. Its assets are said to be \$44,000,000.

John Claflin, head of the company and its chief individual stockholder, is the owner of a chain of nearly 30 dry goods enterprises throughout the country, which are involved in the failure. Receivers of several of these were named today, and similar action, it is announced, will be taken in the case of the rest. Their business will be continued under receivers' management until their financial affairs are adjusted.

From 3,000 to 5,000 banks in all parts of the country compose the bulk of the Claflin creditors.

They hold notes aggregating the major part of the liabilities. These notes are said to have been issued by the various Claflin stores, endorsed by the H. B. Claflin company, and the proceeds used, when discounted, in financing their needs. The United States Dry Goods company, a \$51,000,000 corporation, financed several years ago by J. P. Morgan company to take over the Claflin interests, is not

involved in the failure. Neither is the Associated Merchants' company, owned by the United Dry Goods company, which in turn owns one-half of the H. B. Claflin company and a number of other large stores, principally in New York.

Claflin, who is president of both the dry goods and Associated Merchants companies, resigned these positions today, and it is understood when the Claflin company is reorganized, his connection with both former companies will be permanently severed. Cornelius N. Bliss, son of the late New York dry goods merchant of that name, was elected to succeed him. According to Claflin, the failure was due to unprecedented shifting of trade centers in New York city, which compelled the concern to rely mainly upon its retail stores in other cities for profits.

The crash came today after vain efforts had been made by Mr. Claflin to induce J. P. Morgan and Company and other Wall street banking interests to lend him money to tide over his embarrassment. These bankers, it was learned, advanced the company several millions of dollars about two weeks ago, but the hundreds of note-holding banks throughout the country continued to press their claims until

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BUTTE QUIET; MOYER UNDER CLOSE GUARD

Organization of New Union Progresses, with First Meeting Tuesday—Moyer Not Back from "St. Helena," Whither He Fleed.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] BUTTE, June 25.—This city, after two days of riots, spread more than a week apart, caused by internal strife in the local union of the Western Federation of Miners, showed no remarkable conditions today. All the mines are working, saloons, which have been ordered closed after the riots Tuesday, went on a twenty-four hour basis once more. Progress was made in organizing a committee of citizens as vigilantes.

As the men entered the room where the first vigilante meeting was held, their descriptions and names, if known, were taken by men reported to be connected with the new union. No statement was issued by the committee, which in the future will work in secret. It was announced the first step will be a legal one aimed at Mayor Duncan, whose removal from office will be demanded on charges that he permitted the recent rioting. The discharge of the police force in a body may also be asked.

Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, telegraphed from Helena, where he is resting after his hasty departure from Butte, that he will speak to the mill and smelter men at Anaconda tomorrow night.

It is reported that Mr. Moyer, if he goes to Anaconda, 30 miles from Butte, will be met by a delegation of men who opposed him in Butte. The Anaconda union officials said they had not asked their general president to speak but that he would be granted a hearing.

The newly organized independent union of miners announced that its first regular meeting will be held next Tuesday. The union announced that more than a thousand miners had signed for membership.

HELENA, June 25.—The police and sheriff's officials are convinced that gunmen from Butte are in Helena for the purpose of assassinating Charles Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who fled from Butte during the rioting Tuesday night. Three suspects are under arrest in the county jail and police and sheriff's forces are endeavoring to locate the fourth. Moyer is being closely guarded by deputies and members of the "refuge colony" of Butte who accompanied him to Helena.

The federation president was advised by friends in Butte that men had left for Helena to attack him and throughout the day he kept close in his hotel. Once, when he left to go to a telephone two suspicious characters kept careful surveillance of the state capitol, where it is reported Moyer was in conference with the governor.

his eyes, at the second he said "hello" and at the third he raised up on his left elbow and said "Yes I know" at the same time thrusting his right hand under his pillow. At this point defendant fired twice.

Explaining why he had done thus defendant said that six months before the homicide defendant and deceased had been warm friends but that deceased had broken up his home. More explanation was necessary here, and an argument between counsel imme-

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WILSON STATES PROSPERITY IS BOUND TO COME

Emphatically Answers Opponents of Trust Legislation and Prophets of Hard Times in Speech to Virginia Editors.

TRUST MEASURES NOT POSTPONED

Program to Be Carried Out for Benefit of Business Under Advice of Men Who Know Financial Condition of Country.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] WASHINGTON, June 25.—Under the "new constitution of freedom" for business given by the anti-trust legislation soon to be passed by congress, President Wilson has promised the country the greatest boom in its history. This was the president's final answer to the opponents of trust legislation at this session, and to prophets of evil times, delivered with determined expression, and every word emphasized with clenched fist.

"We know what we are doing," said the president, "and we purpose to do it under advice, for we are fortunate enough to obtain the advice of men who understand the business of the country, and we know the effect is going to be exactly what the effect of the currency reform was: a sense of relief and a security."

The president spoke to a group of Virginia editors. News of the Claflin failure had reached the White House previously, but the president did not mention the incident.

The president's assurance was intended for the country. "As a matter of fact, the signs of a very strong business revival are becoming more evident from day to day," he said. "Business men have acted as some men do who fear they may have to undergo an operation, and who are not sure that when they get on the table the operation will not be capital."

"There has been the same hesitation by business in regard to trust legislation as there was concerning the tariff and currency measures, which they now do not object to. There is the same urgency that the thing be postponed, because we are friends of business. As a friend of business and a servant of the country, I would not dare to stop in this program and thus bring on another long period of agitation. The choice is between a sober and sensible program now completed, or months upon months of additional conjecture and danger."

The president said: "Here in Washington, through the bureau of commerce and other instrumentalities that are at our disposal and through a correspondence which comes in to us from all parts of the nation, we are perhaps in a position to judge the actual condition of business better than those can judge who are at any other single point in the country; and I want to say to you that as a matter of fact the signs of a very strong business revival are becoming more and more evident from day to day."

"I want to suggest this to you: 'Business has been in a feverish and apprehensive condition in this country for more than ten years; I will not stop to point out the time at which it began to be apprehensive; but during more than ten years business has been the object of sharp criticism in the United States, a criticism growing in volume and growing in particularity; and as a natural consequence as the volume of criticism has increased business has been growing more and more anxious.'"

"On all hands it is admitted that there are processes of business, or have been processes of business in this country which ought to be corrected, but the correction has been postponed, and in proportion to the postponement the fever has increased—the fever of apprehension."

"There is nothing more fatal to business than to be kept guessing"

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THE WEATHER

WASHINGTON, June 25.—For Arizona: Fair and cooler.

Irish Farmers Increase Debts \$5,000,000 Yearly

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] LONDON, June 25.—A departmental committee which has been going into the conditions of agricultural credit in Ireland, find that the indebtedness of Irish farmers has been increasing at the rate of \$5,000,000 a year since under the Wyndham land act they commenced to settle on their own land. The opinion is given in the report that facilities for supplying credit on sound lines to the smaller and medium rural classes in Ireland are inadequate. The professional money-lenders have made an invasion of this land and nearly

have driven out the "gombeen men," who are squirekeepers and shopkeepers serving as moneylenders.

As a solution of the credit problem the committee suggests that rural Ireland might itself supply the money it needs, since the rural community has \$65,000,000 on deposit in the postoffice savings banks, a huge sum which is transferred to London for investment in government securities when it might be employed at home. The committee recommended the establishment of a sound system of co-operative credit to safeguard the farmers from money-lenders.



Senator Francis G. Newlands.